

# NEWS RELEASE

## COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PRESS BRIEFING NOTICE: Authors McGeorge Bundy, William J. Crowe, Jr., and Sidney D. Drell will discuss *Reducing Nuclear Danger: The Road Away from the Brink* on Wednesday, December 8, 1993 at 9:30 am at the National Press Club, 13th Floor, Zenger Room, 14th & F Streets, NW, Washington, DC. If you wish to attend the briefing, please contact the Public Affairs Office at (212) 734-0400.

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### STUDY OUTLINES STEPS TOWARD REDUCING NUCLEAR THREATS

New York, NY, November 19, 1993- The threat of nuclear confrontation between the United States and the Soviet Union has been replaced by the possibility that countries such as North Korea and Iraq might equip themselves with nuclear warheads, thereby altering the shape of global nuclear danger.

In a new book, *Reducing Nuclear Danger* (Council on Foreign Relations Press, November 1993), three of America's top experts on nuclear affairs offer prescriptions for effective international action to cut existing nuclear arsenals and prevent further proliferation. Written by McGeorge Bundy, Scholar-in-Residence at the Carnegie Corporation of New York, Admiral William J. Crowe, Jr., USN (Ret.), Professor of Geopolitics at the University of Oklahoma and former Chairman of the Joints Chiefs of Staff, and Sidney D. Drell, physicist and professor at Stanford University, the book is a clear, concise guide to past, present, and future nuclear-weapons policy.

The authors call on the United States, Russia, and the other successor states of the former Soviet Union to reduce their nuclear arsenals drastically. For the sake of international stability, the United States must take an active role in ensuring a stable and moderate Russia, and strongly encourage the other former Soviet states to remain free from the costs and dangers of possessing nuclear weapons.

The problem of limiting the spread of nuclear weapons around the world is complex, yet the book offers hope for effective solutions. The authors advocate a new level of international commitment to prevent the spread of nuclear danger. As the remaining superpower, the United States should actively promote programs, both domestic and international, for reducing nuclear danger and

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reinforcing the worldwide effort against proliferation. The authors also call for a more open explanation of nuclear dangers by American political leaders to increase public understanding of the issues and decrease the fear and mistrust that has developed among countries.

*Reducing Nuclear Danger* concludes with ten concrete recommendations for future U.S. nuclear policy. Among the guidelines are:

- \* The United States must recognize that nuclear danger is real and present, and that policies must respect the uniquely destructive capabilities of nuclear bombs. The United States should seek wider understandings on nuclear risks with as many other governments as possible, beginning with three other nuclear-weapon states, Great Britain, France, and China.

- \* Any possibility of American first use of nuclear weapons should be governed by a stringent doctrine of *defensive last resort*. This policy, as adopted by NATO in 1991, can also serve as a basic doctrine of the United States.

- \* A comprehensive test ban treaty should be signed by the United States and all other states. The end of testing has been an asserted objective of all members of the Non-Proliferation Treaty for almost twenty-five years. The United States has come to be perceived as deliberately resistant to this objective, and clear American support for the comprehensive test ban is essential for effective international action against proliferation.

- \* The U.S.-Russian reductions agreed to in the START I and II treaties should not be seen as final; further reductions and improvements can be sought and secured.

*Reducing Nuclear Danger* is a practical guide to understanding the politics and policies of nuclear weapons. Although nuclear danger remains a grave global threat, this turning point in history offers an unprecedented opportunity to change course and build higher barricades against the possibility of nuclear war.

**McGeorge Bundy** is a Scholar-in-Residence, Carnegie Corporation of New York. He was the President's Special Assistant for National Security Affairs, 1961-66, and is the author of *Danger and Survival*.

**Admiral William J. Crowe, Jr.**, USN (Ret.), a former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, is Professor of Geopolitics at the University of Oklahoma, Counselor at the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington, D.C., and Chairman of the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board.

**Sidney D. Drell**, a physicist and Professor at Stanford University, is a longtime advisor to the U.S. government on technical, national security, and arms control issues.

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